13. A peptide comprising or consisting of the sequence YMVH or MVHW or VHWK and having at least 70% homology with part or all of the sequence

AEFHRWSSYMVHWK.

14. A mixture of the peptide of claim 12 or claim 13 with another peptide having at least 4 amino acid residues and having at least 70% homology with the β-amyloid precursor sequence

DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQK.

15. A probe consisting of the peptide of claim 12 or claim 13, labelled with a signal moiety, or immobilised on a support.

16. A probe consisting of the peptide of claim 14, labelled with a signal moiety, or immobilised on a support.

17. A compound which competes with the peptide of claim 12 or claim 13 for binding to a receptor therefor and which thereby inhibits the biological activity of the said peptide.

18. A compound as claimed in claim 17, wherein the biological activity is modulating a calcium-channel-opening activity.

19. A compound as claimed in claim 17, which is capable of crossing the blood-brain barrier.

20. An antibody to the peptide of claim 12 or claim 13.

21. An antibody as claimed in claim 20 which is of the IgG class.

22. An antibody fragment or chimeric or humanised antibody comprising variable regions of the antibody of claim 20.

~~23~~ 24. ~~A method of treating a patient suffering from a disorder~~ of the central nervous system or stroke or cancer, which method comprises administering to the patient a compound according to claim ~~17~~ 18.

~~24~~ 25. A method of treating a patient suffering from a disorder of the central nervous system or stroke or cancer, which method comprises administering to the patient an antibody according to claim ~~20~~ 21.

~~25~~ 26. A method of controlling cytoplasmic calcium ion concentration *in vivo*, which method comprises administering a compound according to claim ~~17~~ 18.

~~26~~ 27. A method of controlling cytoplasmic calcium ion concentration *in vivo*, which method comprises administering an antibody according to claim ~~20~~ 21.

~~27~~ 28. A peptide as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13 or claim ~~13~~ 14, which peptide contains no more than about 14 amino acid residues.

~~28~~ 29. A peptide as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13 or claim ~~13~~ 14, which ~~peptide does not form part of a larger protein having homology with~~ the AChE molecule.

~~29~~ 30. A peptide as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13 or claim ~~13~~ 14, which peptide is a fragment of the AChE ~~molecule~~.

~~30~~ 31. A peptide as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13 or claim ~~13~~ 14, which peptide has been chemically synthesised. --